

CORTLAND Breakfast Rotary

January 8, 2025.

It's 2025!

Let's make Rotary a Priority!



Alexandra Mikowski, Clayton Moore

Medicare Fraud

The timely and important message that Alexandra, the head of Access to Independence, and Clayton, a fellow Rotarian of the Cortland Noon Club, imparted to us was:

Medicare and Medicare abuse are not just affecting the elderly; The amount of abuse is huge; New York State provides the Senior Medical Patrol at 800-333-4374.

One helping aid pointed out to us is My HealthcareTracker, which can be found at smpresource.org.

The best way to eliminate this type of fraud is to do our own due diligence. Great our Medicare number like a credit card and only share it with trusted sources. Beneficiaries should never sign a blank form and should always get a copy of all paperwork. Keep good records and pay attention at visits and results.

This is the kind of presentation that Alex and Clayton wished they would never have to make. If we all do our diligence, they someday won't!

ALEX AND CLAYTON DETAILED SOME OF THE FRAUDULENT PRACTICES DOGGING MEDICARE:

- BILLING FOR SERVICES THAT WERE NOT PROVIDED;
- PROVIDING UNSOLICITED SUPPLIES AND BILLING THE INSURANCE;
- MISREPRESENTING DIAGNOSIS;
- EXCESSIVE TESTS AND SERVICES;
- BILLING BENEFICIARY AND NOT MEDICARE;
- REQUEST MEDICARE NUMBER.

THE BEST RECOURSE TO THESE ACTIONS IS TO RECORD EVERYTHING, CONTACT THE PROVIDER, AND ASK QUESTIONS. IF THE PROVIDER CAN'T HELP, YOU CAN SUSPECT FRAUD AND ABUSE.

What is Medicare Fraud and Abuse?

Medicare Fraud occurs when a person or company **knowingly** tricks Medicare. They do this **intentionally** to receive inappropriate payment from the program.

Medicare Abuse occurs when providers seek Medicare payment they don't deserve but they have **not** knowingly or intentionally done so. Abuse can also involve billing for unsound medical practices.

What is the Difference?

The main difference between fraud and abuse is **intent** – did they do it knowingly or not? Only the authorities may be able to answer that question. Whether it is fraud or abuse, it still wastes billions of dollars every year and needs to be reported.



Examples of Fraud and Abuse

- Billing for services, supplies, or equipment that were not provided.
- Calling Medicare beneficiaries and asking for their Medicare number, saying it is needed to get a new Medicare card or keep their Medicare benefits.
- Trying to get a Medicare number in exchange for “free” services.
- Billing for services different than what was provided (to get a higher payment).
- Billing for medically unnecessary or excessive services or supplies.

How Your NYS Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Can Help

Your NYS SMP can help you with questions, concerns, or complaints about potential fraud and abuse issues. We also can provide educational presentations to groups in your community.

Call the NYS Senior Medicare Patrol at **1-800-333-4374**



STATE WIDE

New York StateWide Senior Action Council, Inc.
275 State Street, Albany, NY 12210 • (518) 436-1006 • Fax (518) 436-7642
www.nysenior.org

This project was supported, in part by grant number 90MPPG01701, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201.

5 Important Facts About Your Medicare Cards

1

YOUR MEDICARE CARD DOES NOT HAVE YOUR SSN!

CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) removed SSNs from all Medicare cards. Your card has your full name, Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) and the date your Medicare Part A and Part B coverage starts.



2

BE AWARE OF SCAMS

Scammers posing as Medicare Reps may call you asking for your current Medicare number and offer to send you a new card. Never give your information to anyone suspicious over the phone!

3

LOST CARD

If you lost your Medicare Card, you can request a **replacement card with the same Medicare number** by calling **1-800-MEDICARE. (1-800-633-4227)**

4

STOLEN CARD

If your Medicare Card was stolen or compromised, you can request a new Medicare number. Important note: The new number is system generated, so you **will not** be able to request a specific number.

5

IF YOU REQUEST A NEW MEDICARE NUMBER...

YOU are responsible for letting doctors, pharmacies, and other medical providers know about your new number. You can only use your new number for services once you receive it. You are still responsible for payments/copayments for services you received under your old number.

REMEMBER TO REPORT SUSPECTED FRAUD, ERRORS OR ABUSE.

CALL the NYS Senior Medicare Patrol at **1-800-333-4374**



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**PRESIDENT.
FRONT DESK.
THOUGHT OF THE DAY.
GUESTS.
CLAYTON MOORE, NISHI KADVANI, DOUG WITHEY.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY.
ROTARY ANNIVERSARY.
RAFFLE.
ATTENDANCE.**

***JACKIE BURKE
CORINNE HAYES, MIKE MAY.
CONRAD JANKE.
ALEXANDRA MIKOWSKI,
DOTTIE FOWLER.
JIM DEMPSEY, MARK ROBERTS.
JIM DEMPSEY
24 + 3 ZOOM***



The Cortland Noon Rotary will be holding a presentation next Wednesday, January 15th, 5pm at The First National Bank of Dryden Cortlandville office (Dryden Rd.). District Governor Lizzy Martin will be the Presenter (p. 5).

We are joining forces with the local ALS Association to combine their annual ride with our Ride for Rotary. There will be a Zoom meeting this Friday, January 9, at 9am. Anyone interested in joining this meeting contact President Jackie Burke.

Glenn Reisweber accepted the Board of Directors position for 2025-7.

There will be an evening meeting on March 26 in conjunction with the Noon Club, more info coming (p. 9).

Glenn Reisweber, with assistance of the new Village of Homer Mayor, found the Homer ice rink. Glenn also welcomed back his dear friend, Old Man Winter!

Conrad Janke thanked Don Richards for sponsoring and Nishi Kadvani for attending the Delaney Bros. Christmas; for Chuck Feiszli's New Years Eve party; and in memory of Sophie Clough's dad.

Mark Roberts, as President-Elect, is glad to have Glenn Reisweber as a member of the Board.

Kathie O'Mara reported that she is receiving a new hip next Monday, the 13th, and will be Zooming in next week.

Todd Curtis informed us that his wife Jena is in India, and is with a group in an elephant preserve. Todd also is optimistic about 2025.

Jackie Burke stated that while it may be cold outside, it is beautiful!



The Rotary Club of Cortland

ROTARY IS AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION THAT FOCUSES ON DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD
1.4 MILLION MEMBERS SHARE THIS COMMON PURPOSE
LOCAL CLUBS FOCUS ON FELLOWSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Our Four Way Test

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build good will and better friendship?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

You are invited to attend an informational meeting about

The Rotary Club of Cortland

January 15, 2025, at 5 pm

The First National Bank of Dryden

Cortlandville Office, Rt 281

This one-hour presentation will share the answer to

“What is Rotary?”

Light snacks and refreshments

Please feel free to bring a friend to learn all about Rotary



Join our fellow Rotarians, help others learn more about Rotary!

No morning meeting on March
26, please join us:



CORTLAND BREAKFAST & NOON,
TULLY, AND WHITNEY POINT
ROTARY CLUBS

**WEDNESDAY
MARCH 26TH
MEETING**

AT THE CORTLAND ELKS @ 6PM

\$20 per person
Non-spouse guests:
Free

Speaker:
CNY President
Lizzy Martin



WELL, I CAN ASSURE YOU, MR. SHAKESPEARE,
AROUND THESE PARTS, WE DON'T TAKE NO
POETIC LICENSE.



2/25

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